

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
19 February 2004 (19.02.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/015936 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: H04L 12/56

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2003/003412

(22) International Filing Date: 6 August 2003 (06.08.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0218565.0 9 August 2002 (09.08.2002) GB
0228917.1 11 December 2002 (11.12.2002) GB
0228904.9 11 December 2002 (11.12.2002) GB
0228903.1 11 December 2002 (11.12.2002) GB

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(81) Designated States (national): CA, US.

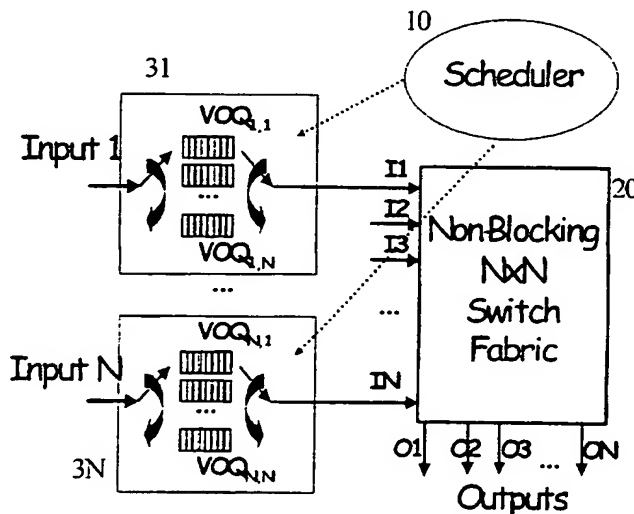
(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: PACKET SWITCHING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: Switch requests within a packet switch are allocated by processing switch request data for each input port to generate request data for each input port-output port pairing; and generating an allocation plan by sorting the request data relating to each of the input/output pairs in terms of their queue length, and for each such pair, considered in the sorted order, allocating as many of the requests in the queue as can be accommodated in the remaining time slots.

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